

1 7/17 1960
2. 5/11/60

BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE



Health of Maidstone

1960

Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health
C. H. M. DUNSTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

+++++

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

- 1960 -

ON THE

HEALTH OF MAIDSTONE

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

+++++

F. H. M. DUMMER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

+++++

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1960

CHAIRMAN: Councillor J. E. Evans
 VICE-CHAIRMAN: Councillor A. H. Clark
 MEMBERS: Aldermen Brittain, Harman and Mrs. Relf.
 Councillors Appleton, Barrett, Boardman,
 Mrs. Cameron, Hawkins and Tippet.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE MAIDSTONE CORPORATION

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: F.H.M. Dummer, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
 DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: A.E. Warren, L.R.C.P.I. and L.M.
 L.R.C.S.I. and L.M.
 CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR: A.H. Basford, D.P.A., M.I.P.H.E.,
 (1, 2, 3 and 4)
 DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
 INSPECTOR: G. S. Adams, (1 and 2)
 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH
 INSPECTORS: R.A.R. Key (1, 2 and 3)
 J. Arnold (1, 2 and 3)
 F.H. Piggott (1, 2 and 3)
 B.G. Willis (1)
 R.C. Comport (Pupil)
 Appointed 30.9.60.

- Key: 1. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute of Sanitary
 Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
 2. Meat and Other Foods Inspection Certificate of Royal
 Society of Health.
 3. Smoke Inspectors Certificate of Royal Society of Health.
 4. Sanitary Science Certificate of Royal Society of Health.

CLERKS: M.O.H. Office:
 Medical Officer's Secretary - Miss H. Wood
 Public Health Inspector's Office:

L. Acott
 Mrs. B. Jones (Resigned 30.9.60)
 Mrs. V. Pattenden
 Miss J. Smith (Appointed 19.4.60)
 Miss D. French (Appointed 3.10.60)

BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

Telephone:
Maidstone 4072

Health Department,
13 Tonbridge Road,
Maidstone.

16th June, 1961

To The Worshipful The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Maidstone.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report on the Health of Maidstone, being the third in the present series which started in 1958.

The Health of Maidstone as far as the infantile mortality rate, new cases of tuberculosis, and the absence of any major outbreak of infectious disease is concerned, was good during 1960.

The death rate at 11.16 was below that of England and Wales.

The birth rate, in the current year, has risen to the high level of 18.16 per thousand of the population. This is substantially above that for the country as a whole, although even the latter figure, at 17.1, is the highest nationally since 1948.

Maidstone in fact, is becoming a "younger town" from year to year, and this is undoubtedly a reflection of the well-established economical position in Southern England, of the County Town of Kent.

Once again there have been no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis notified during the year.

On the other side of the coin, however, we are faced with a higher aggregate of deaths from cancer. This increase has shown itself in practically every site of the disease. It is also an increase which has been largely borne by males, although the distribution of the disease is still mainly restricted to the older age groups. There is, however, a tendency for younger age groups, particularly from 45 onwards, to show a heightened incidence.

One of the failures in health education has been the poor impact

on the public in general of publicity on the relationship between cancer of the lung and cigarette smoking. Indeed, the amount of tobacco sold has reached an all time record, and from surveys which have been carried out throughout the country, even the younger age groups have failed to respond to the plea not to start smoking.

This is bound to be the reaction when there has been the poorest of national leads in this respect, undoubtedly with the full knowledge that the national revenue would suffer a severe blow if health education had a real effect on this costly addiction.

You will see in the body of this Report figures for immunisation against poliomyelitis. Up to the end of 1960 approximately a quarter of Maidstone's population had taken full advantage of the facilities offered by the Local Health Authority and by the general practitioner service.

This is a reasonable figure, but I would appeal to the people of Maidstone to make greater use of these facilities so that we may see, before very long, more like half the population than a quarter with a considerable amount of protection. This barrier of protection existing in the community is extremely important as the first line of defence against poliomyelitis assuming epidemic proportions.

Much work is being done at the moment on the perfection of an oral vaccine, but I cannot stress too strongly that it would be a mistake for people to wait for the advantages of oral vaccination, still at a preliminary stage, instead of accepting the protection afforded by the Salk vaccine.

It is very important too, that entire families should be vaccinated against this disease, and that parents should not assume a margin of safety merely because their children have been vaccinated.

This Report, as usual, is made up of accounts of the work of several people who have some relationship with the Health Department. Without their co-operation and assistance, both in the sections which have been given dealing with their work, and in their assistance throughout the year, the work of this department would be made much more difficult.

It does not require very careful reading of the following pages to realise the very considerable scope which comes within the purview of health and welfare.

I would particularly commend to you the work of the Public Health Inspectors, who have during 1960 been engaged on the new project of the assessment of air pollution. The section on air pollution has been contributed by the Chief Public Health Inspector and you will see from his account that there is still a considerable amount to be done.

I am indebted too, to the Borough Engineer, the Housing Manager, The Borough Treasurer, Dr. Pugh of the Chest Clinic, Dr. Elliott the County Medical Officer (for statistics relating to vaccination and immunisation), and Mr. Harden of the Maidstone Waterworks Company, for the reports that they have given me both in the following account and throughout the year.

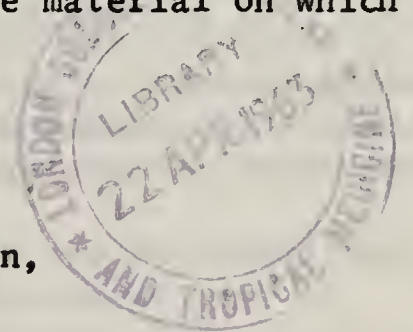
I have been fortunate during 1960 in having the support of an enthusiastic and knowledgeable Health Committee, and I am particularly grateful to the Chairman and Members for the support they have so generously given me, and indeed to the whole Council for the manner in which my reports have been received.

Finally, I am most grateful, as always, to my secretary Miss Helen Wood who has had a continuous task in formulating the material on which this report is based and typing the draft copies.

I have the Honour to be
Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

F. H. M. DUMMER

Medical Officer of Health.



VITAL STATISTICS 1960

AREA	6,194 acres
------	-------------

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION	58,190
----------------------------------	--------

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	£4,120
------------------------------------	--------

Population - Census, 1952	..	..	..	54,206
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1960)	..	..	..	17,816
Rateable Value	..	..	..	£1,015,868

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	511	506	1,017
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	..	crude -	17.47
		corrected -	18.16

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	5.21
--	------

Still-births	8	8	16
--------------	---	---	----

Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births	15.48
--	-------

Total Live and Still-births	519	514	1,033
-----------------------------	-----	-----	-------

Infant Deaths	8	11	19
---------------	---	----	----

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	18.68
---	-------

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	16.59
--	-------

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	56.60
--	-------

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births	9.83
--	------

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births	9.83
---	------

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	25.16
---	-------

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	..	Nil
--------------------------------------	----	-----

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	Nil
--	-----

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	348	359	707

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	crude -	12.14
	corrected -	11.16

Death Rate for England and Wales	..	11.5
----------------------------------	----	------

THE NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN 1960

SCARLET FEVER
28 cases

There was a significant decrease in the number of cases of scarlet fever notified during 1960; 28 as compared with 78 cases in 1959. Again all cases were of a minor nature, and as far as is known did not give rise to any complications. Of the 28 cases only one was outside the age group 1 - 14 years. This is a common finding in scarlet fever, where sore throats are more or less endemic in the school population.

WHOOPING COUGH
41 cases

There was a slight rise in the number of cases of whooping cough, being 41 as compared with 34 last year. This is, however, a relatively small number considering the very large infant and school population residing in the Borough of Maidstone. Again, most of the cases were in the young age group 1 - 14 years.

MEASLES
12 cases

1960 was not a year of epidemicity in measles, and the total number of cases only amounted to 12. As will be seen from the biennial comparison, the two-yearly cycle of measles is shown very vividly as far as this area is concerned. In no case during 1960 was the age of the patient greater than 9 years.

POLIOMYELITIS
Nil

For the third year in succession no case of poliomyelitis was notified during 1960. The subject of poliomyelitis vaccination is dealt with in another section of the Report, but it is just as well to point out here that we still require in Maidstone a considerably greater margin of safety than appears to be indicated by the latest figures. The fact that we have had 3 years free of poliomyelitis should not give rise to any complacency, as the pattern of this disease, and the reasons for its epidemicity are not yet understood.

DIPHTHERIA
Nil

For the tenth successive year no cases of diphtheria have been notified. Freedom from this disease depends almost entirely on the creation of a formidable barrier of immunity within our population, and this cannot be achieved unless advantage is taken of the facilities for reinforcing injections. Once again throughout the country there have been reports of small, though virulent attacks, and these have brought out a response for immunisation which should have been largely unnecessary.

SMALLPOX
Nil

Once again no case of smallpox has been reported and it was not necessary to follow up any contacts of cases contracted abroad. I would stress the necessity for re-vaccination, and particularly the need to keep up a steady response in primary infant vaccination.

DYSENTERY
12 cases

There were 12 notified cases of dysentery in the Borough of Maidstone during 1960; 7 cases occurring in a hospital, 4 being a family outbreak, and 1 an isolated adult case. The cases in the hospital were quickly brought under control, and the family outbreak gave rise to no secondary cases. Dysentery is a most highly infectious disease, and in schools particularly the most stringent hygiene precautions have to be exercised. When an outbreak occurs schools are put to no little trouble in complying with an even higher standard of hygiene.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA
5 cases

Five cases of this disease occurred during the year, as compared with 4 in 1959. The incidence of this disease, considering the high birth rate in Maidstone, is relatively small, and is again a tribute to the high standard of midwifery and nursing practised in this area.

PNEUMONIA
10 cases

There was a considerable decrease in the number of cases of pneumonia notified during the year, there being 10 cases as compared with 29 in 1959. The majority of these cases fell in the infant age group, or at the other extreme of life. The fact that only two of the cases were under 5 years of age, is once again a striking instance of the improvement in child care which has been maintained over the last two or three decades.

ERYSIPELAS
6 cases

There were 6 cases of erysipelas in 1960, as compared with 5 in 1959. This is an acute condition of the skin with toxic symptoms, which can be, in a debilitated person, a serious illness. It is not normally associated with complications, although in one instance last year it proved to be a most disabling disease.

FOOD POISONING
5 cases

There were 5 notified cases of food poisoning in 1960, the same figure as for the previous year. Three of the cases occurred at the Royal West Kent Regiment Barracks, and were admitted

to a military hospital. The other two cases occurred in one family. In the civilian case, although shellfish was suspected, the follow-up proved to be negative, and it was not associated with any secondary cases.

I made a point, last year, of stressing that the elimination of food poisoning is largely in the hands of the consumers themselves, and requires the application of the strictest personal standards, both in the acceptance of products in shops, and in the treatment of them at home - particularly of made-up meats.

There is still much to be done in this field to bring the food hygiene standards up to the required level, and as far as the Local Authority is concerned it requires the most vigilant measures to ensure the careful handling of all food products. At the same time, it is fair to say that wherever instances of food poisoning have occurred the investigations have been accompanied by complete co-operation on the part of traders.

MEASLES - Biennial Comparison

1955 - 898	1957 - 427	1959 - 875
1956 - 101	1958 - 96	1960 - 12

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - DIVISION INTO WARDS

	North Ward	Shepway Ward	South Ward	Bridge Ward	Heath Ward	High Street Ward	King Street Ward	TOTALS
Scarlet fever ..	4	12	3	-	3	2	4	28
Whooping cough ..	6	7	7	3	10	3	5	41
Measles	-	4	-	-	3	3	2	12
Poliomyelitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ..	4	-	1	1	-	-	6	12
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Pneumonia ..	2	1	1	1	3	-	2	10
Typhoid fever ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning ..	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	5
Erysipelas ..	-	1	-	1	2	-	2	6
Chicken pox ..	-	8	4	6	12	-	5	35
Encephalitis ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS ..	19	33	18	13	33	8	31	155

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 years & over	TOTAL ALL AGES
Scarlet fever ..	-	3	4	13	7	-	1	28
Whooping cough ..	3	6	15	17	-	-	-	41
Measles	-	4	2	6	-	-	-	12
Poliomyelitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ..	-	2	-	3	4	1	2	12
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia ..	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	5
Pneumonia ..	-	1	2	-	-	-	7	10
Typhoid fever ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning ..	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5
Erysipelas ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
Chicken pox ..	-	4	4	23	2	1	1	35
Encephalitis ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS ..	4	20	27	62	13	9	20	155

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

In the pages which follow, detailed figures are given of the response to vaccination and immunisation as carried out during 1960.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The number of people, including children, in Maidstone who have now taken advantage of the free facilities of a full course of three injections against poliomyelitis amounted to 14,526 by the end of 1960. Of this total, 4,202 courses were completed in the year 1960, and 3,519 people received two injections in addition to the total given. This means that approximately a quarter of the population of Maidstone is now as fully protected as can reasonably be expected at this stage against poliomyelitis. This is a fair figure, but still leaves a considerable gap in the amount of protection that it is necessary for the community to have before a level of safety can be said to exist.

From the following table it will be seen that the number of people born before 1933, who completed a course of three injections, was 602. This is a very low figure indeed. We need have no second thoughts about this kind of response. It is, in fact, a miserable response, and is a most disappointing example of the sense of values which we had hoped would prevail on the prevention of this disease.

It is almost incredible when one remembers the tragic circumstances in which Maidstone found itself in 1957, that there should be a lack of response in this age group. The vast majority of these people must themselves remember very well the gloom which I am told was cast over this town during that Summer and Autumn.

Here we have free and simple facilities for people to protect themselves as fully as science can provide, and yet the response is only a fraction of what it could and should be.

I appeal once again to the adult population of Maidstone to take advantage of these facilities, and to ensure that not only the children, but each family unit, should be as fully protected as possible.

There is, at the time of writing this Report, a scheme for a fourth injection to be given to all primary school children. This is a most important step which we in the public health service welcome

wholeheartedly, and I hope that the response in this young age group will be as good as that recorded in the table for 1960.

I hope that no one will make the mistake of waiting for oral vaccine to be made available, instead of taking advantage of the Salk vaccine which is already in use. Oral vaccine is used on a totally different basis, and will not be available for the public unless or until it is requested by the Local Health Authority in the case of an epidemic.

The Salk vaccine is a well-established and proved substance, used with every confidence to give a very considerable degree of protection.

The following table gives (A) the number of second injections and (B) the number of third injections given during the year ended 31st December, 1960.

BORN	(A)	(B)
1960	122	5
1959	492	224
1958	86	303
1957	25	111
1956	19	64
1955	16	77
1954	19	78
1953	13	48
1952	16	77
1951	6	66
1950	9	46
1949	11	62
1948	15	50
1947	8	56
1946	8	52
1945	7	32
1944	12	61
1943	9	61
1933-		
1942	485	1,785
Before		
1933	1,995	602
OTHERS	146	342
TOTAL	3,519	4,202

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Year of Birth	Primary
1960	364
1959	383
1958	51
1957	16
1956	14
1955	26
1954	11
1953	5
1952	3
1951	2
1950	1
1949	1
1948	-
1947	-
1946	-
Before 1946	-
TOTAL	877

It will be seen from the above table, that the number of primary immunisations against whooping cough has risen from 744 in 1959 to 877 in 1960.

This is a welcome trend, which I hope will continue to be shown.

As I have pointed out before, whooping cough, although in general a mild disease, is still in the very young infant a real potential hazard. Facilities are freely available from the welfare clinics, or through the general practitioners, for protection against this disease, and full advantage should be taken of them.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Year of Birth	Primary	Revaccination
1960	163	-
1959	298	-
1958	35	-
1957	5	-
1956	7	1
1955	1	1
1954	1	1
1953	4	-
1952	-	-
1951	2	-
1950	1	-
1949	1	1
1948	-	-
1947	-	-
1946	-	-
Before 1946	12	3
TOTAL	530	7

From the above table it will be seen that again there has been an increase in the number of primary vaccinations carried out, although sadly enough, there has been a 50 per cent reduction in the number of revaccinations. Anything which will boost the immunity within the populace is welcome, and I think that the present figures are encouraging. I would, however, stress that it is necessary for revaccination to be carried out, preferably at least on two occasions, at intervals of about 5 years, before one could have any real sense of protection.

We are finding that people who need International Certificates of Vaccination are having to have primary vaccinations in adult life, when the consequences are much more inconvenient than if primary vaccination is carried out in infancy. Since practically all foreign travel involves the necessity to produce an International Certificate, this should be a factor influencing parents to ensure that primary vaccination of infants is carried out within the first few months of life.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation	
	Primary	Reinforcing
1960	364	-
1959	388	1
1958	90	13
1957	40	11
1956	27	29
1955	36	267
1954	48	85
1953	10	19
1952	12	29
1951	9	13
1950	1	10
1949	3	6
1948	-	9
1947	1	7
1946	-	3
Before 1946	1	-
TOTAL (1960)	1,030	502
TOTAL (1959)	928	794

From the above tables it will be seen that the total number of immunisations against diphtheria fell in 1960. There was, in fact, an increase in the number of primary injections, which is encouraging, but the number of reinforcing doses fell so considerably as to bring down the combined total.

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1960, who had completed a course of immunisation against diphtheria at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1946.)

Year of Birth	Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1956 - 1960	1955 or earlier
1946	88	773
1947	617	406
1948	468	281
1949	325	470
1950	355	417
1951	552	214
1952	570	165
1953	533	157
1954	533	161
1955	548	14
1956	593	-
1957	527	-
1958	486	-
1959	491	-
1960	364	-
TOTALS	7,050	3,058

It is still necessary to point out that full protection against this disease cannot be maintained unless and until the reinforcing doses assume as great an importance as the primary doses. It is only by this means that a continuous barrier of protection can be maintained in the community.

The small but sharp outbreaks of diphtheria which have occurred in other parts of the country throughout the past twelve months should warn us that this disease can still be a disabling, and indeed mortal illness. It is of the utmost importance therefore, that the fullest advantage should be taken of the facilities offered at schools, clinics, and through the general practitioner service, for protection against diphtheria.

TUBERCULOSIS1960 Statistics

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 - 35	1	4	1	1	-	-	-	-
36 - 45	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
46 - 55	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
56 - 65	4	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
66 & over	3	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
TOTALS	14	12	1	2	5	-	-	-

There has been a slight decrease in the number of new cases of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified in the Borough of Maidstone during the year, from 32 in 1959, to 29 in 1960. There has also been a reduction in the number of deaths, from 6 to 5, in the current year.

I am indebted to Dr. D. L. Pugh, the Chest Physician, for the following account of the work of the Chest Clinic and the voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee.

The following figures refer to the combined areas of Maidstone Borough, Maidstone, Malling and Hollingbourn Rural Districts.

1.	Number of contacts, seen during 1960, of newly notified cases of tuberculosis	..	..	225
2.	Number of contacts, seen during 1960, of cases notified prior to 1960	..	..	635
3.	Number of contacts in 1. found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis	..		3
4.	Number of contacts in 2. found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis	..		5

THE WORK OF THE CHEST CLINIC AND THE VOLUNTARY TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

The Eradication of Tuberculosis

The Annual Reports for 1958 and 1959 have given statistical evidence and comment of the work undertaken in the Chest Clinic and of the service provided by the Voluntary Care Committee.

It may be advisable, therefore, in this present report to review the position regarding tuberculosis both at the present time and in regard to future management. The inspired observation by an American physician in 1912 - "No home is safe until all homes are safe" - called men back from false hope to a reasoned approach to the management of the disease. Early diagnosis, the various means for the prevention of spread, modern improved methods of therapy both medical and surgical, efficient following up of "contacts", Mass Radiography surveys and increased facilities for B.C.G. vaccination have produced an improvement in the national position in regard to tuberculosis, whereby the mortality rate has fallen by 14 per cent from 1958 to 1959, and the morbidity rate shows a fall of 2,738 in the number of annual notifications in England and Wales.

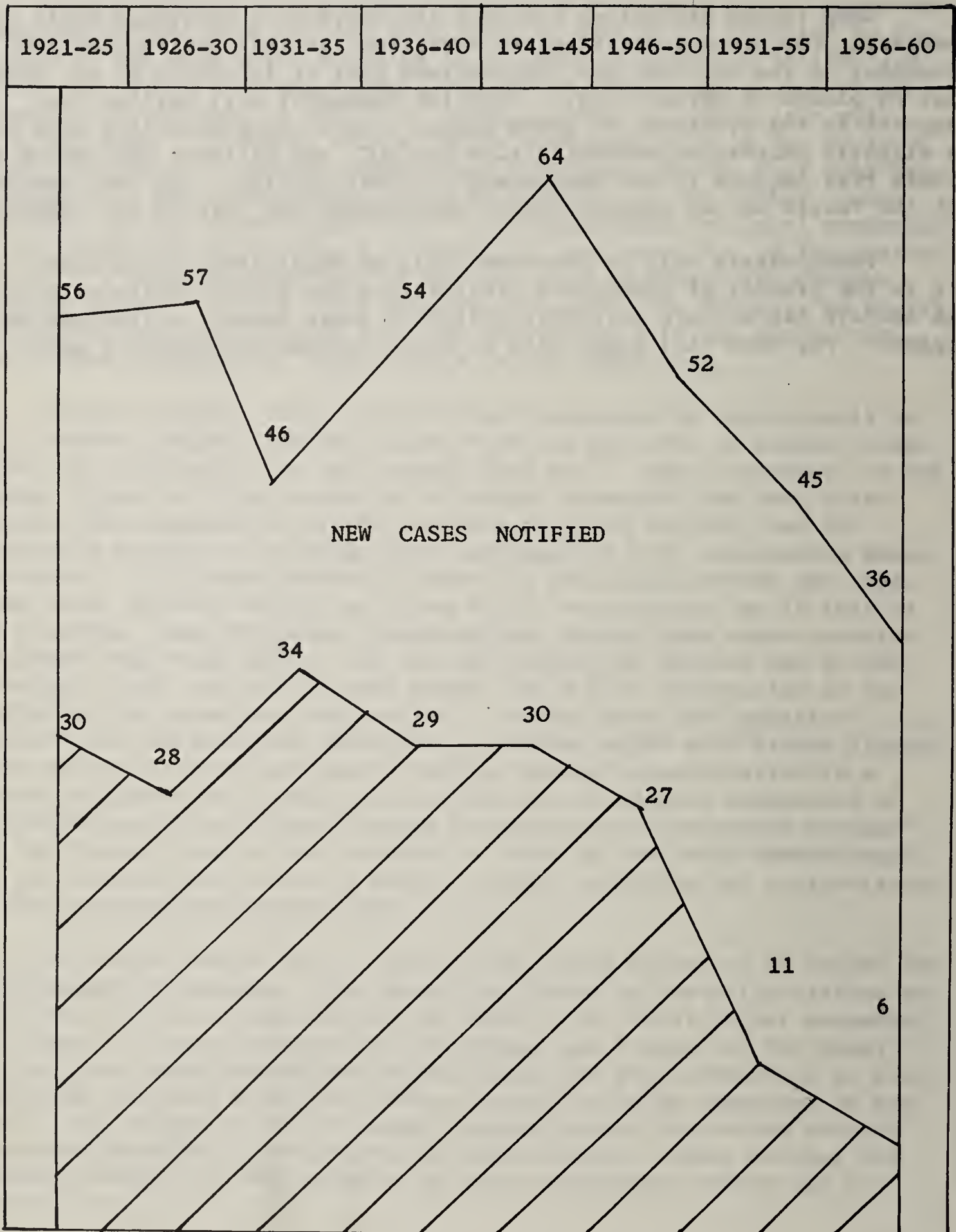
In the "Times" of the 17th February 1961 the special correspondent commented on the report of the Department of Health for Scotland on the success of the Mass X-ray campaign in 21 areas of Scotland in 1957 and 1958. He stated that the surveys "helped to reduce the incidence of tuberculosis and make it almost a 'minor ailment' in comparison with other diseases" - evidence of the facile optimism which is the basis of human illusion. A further observation gave point to the fact that the prevalence of new tuberculosis might be as high, if not higher, among those who had not come forward for X-ray examination, a signal commentary on the necessity for further propaganda for and education in the desirability of a relentless pursuit of our aim - to eradicate the disease from our homes. As the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health has pointed out, we still do not know how accurate is the picture we have of the incidence of tuberculosis in the community.

Robert Phillip, the pioneer of the management of tuberculosis in this country, taught that "we cannot wait for patients to present themselves at our clinics, we must search them out," and in contrast to the present plight of false security, we should intensify the Mass X-ray Surveys, the examination of all contacts to known disease, and the tuberculin testing of children with subsequent B.C.G. vaccination where necessary. All school entrants should be tuberculin tested and those found to be negative should be given B.C.G. vaccination, or if this is not possible, then the later school medical inspections should contain a further tuberculin test. We are not making the fullest use of the tuberculin test, and the present scheme for B.C.G. vaccination is too limited in its scope and application. Furthermore the "positive reactor" and the "positive converter" - persons maybe with hidden disease which may light-up at any time - require special consideration in a future programme and it may well be that our successful management of recognised and overt disease should be matched by "preventive therapy" for the latent forms of the disease - that is, not only chemotherapy but also chemo-prophylaxis, a method already receiving the consideration of the World Health Organisation.

Reference should also be made to the group which may be called the unfortunates of Society. The Reception Centre is regularly visited by the Mass X-ray Unit, and the day and time of the visit is not announced beforehand. The population of H.M. Prison are X-rayed at the Chest Clinic after admission and before discharge and the Institution is also visited by the Mass X-ray Unit when a survey is being conducted in the town. The occupants of the common lodging houses, who often contain the self-discharges or the expelled from hospital, form a burning and unsolved problem for the solution of which compulsory powers may be needed.

Deep rooted prejudices die hard and there is a rewarding field of endeavour for propaganda in health education, so that shut-minded complacency on the one hand and over-anxious fear of infection on the other may be placed in perspective. Thus the community will realise that success in the treatment of known cases, a decreasing mortality rate and a slightly decreasing morbidity rate are NOT the criteria upon which to claim real success in the management of tuberculosis. The real problem of the future is the eradication of the disease and this is yet unsolved.

Tuberculosis will be overcome, will be eradicated in due time. It is the product of incomplete civilisation and will be mastered only as society can be more perfectly fitted to human needs, limitations and urges. For then "All homes will be safe, because each home is safe."

TUBERCULOSISQuinquennial Deaths and New Cases notified

CANCER

The tables set out below show (1) the number of deaths from malignant disease for the past 10 years, (2) the age groups of deaths recorded from this cause during 1960, and (3) the distribution according to sites.

(1)

1951	..	..	95
1952	..	..	106
1953	..	..	82
1954	..	..	98
1955	..	..	107
1956	..	..	93
1957	..	..	111
1958	..	..	109
1959	..	..	110
1960	..	..	123

(2)

Age Periods	Male	Female
0 - 15	1	-
16 - 25	-	1
26 - 45	3	4
46 - 55	12	9
56 - 65	22	10
66 & over	29	32
Totals	67	56

(3)

Site	Male	Female
Cancer of lung	21	2
Cancer of stomach	9	4
Cancer of uterus	-	8
Cancer of breast	-	14
Other sites	37	28
Totals ..	67	56

The total number of deaths caused by cancer in 1960 reached the highest figure for the past ten years, i.e. 123 in all. Increases occurred in all age groups with the exception of ages 26-45, where there was a slight remission. The number of cases of cancer of the lung was increased by 2.

The largest percentage increase was in males. Once again the main weight of this mortality was borne by the age group over 65 years.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Once again the infantile death rate is below that for England and Wales, the total number remaining the same as last year.

The current figure for England and Wales at 21.7 is once again a record for the country, being the lowest rate ever recorded.

The diminution in infantile mortality generally has now reached a slowing down stage, and each year the fall is considerably less than that of the previous year. Although there may be a small margin by which the infantile mortality can be reduced, through better facilities for premature babies, and improved surgical techniques for abnormalities, there is not a great deal in the foreseeable future that will have a significant bearing on this figure.

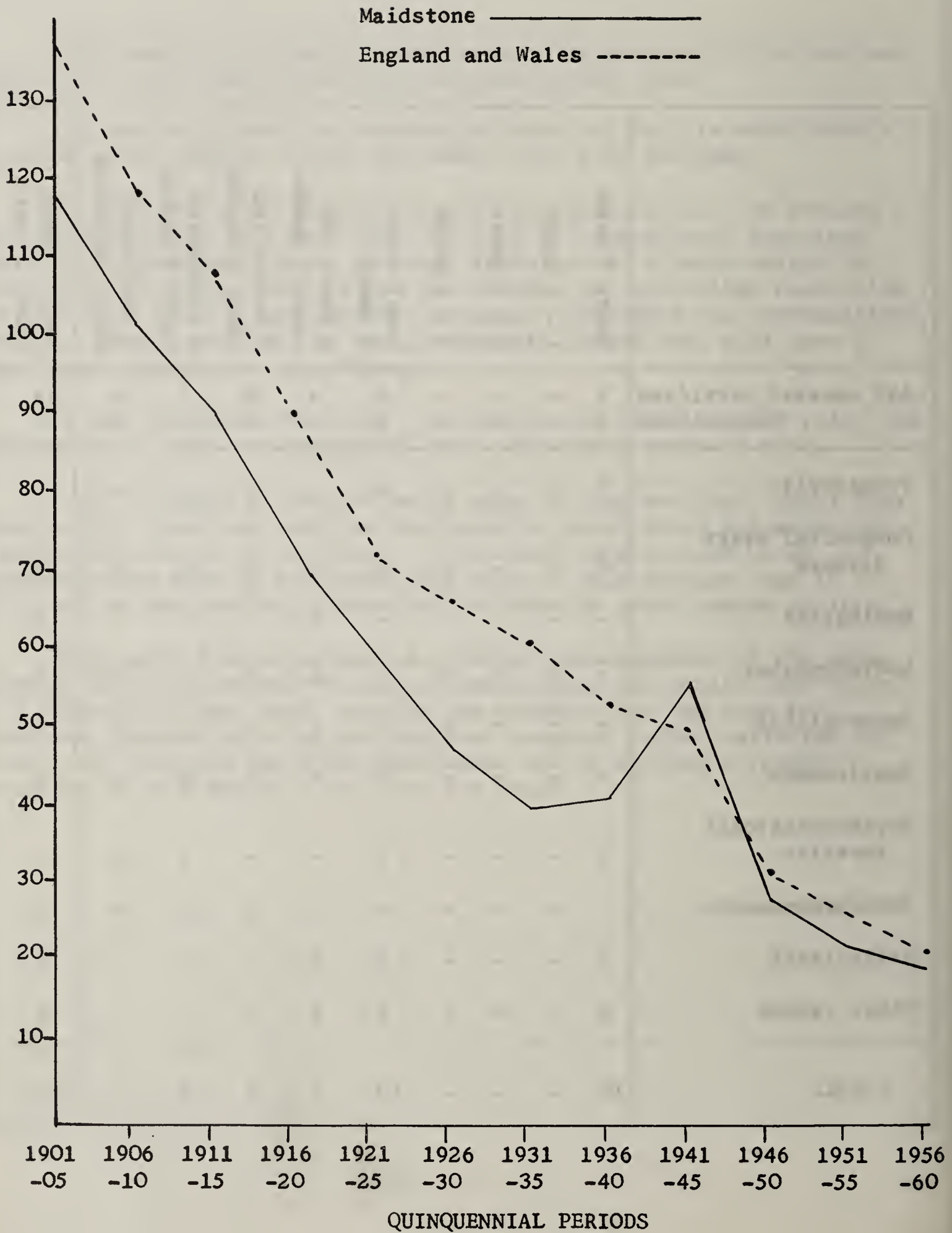
Of the 19 deaths this year, 10 died in the first week of life, and the remainder, with one exception, up to the ninth month of life.

From the table on the following page one can see that, apart from prematurity, there are very few instances in which there was more than a reasonable chance of survival. Congenital defects, and birth abnormalities make up a considerable part of this picture, and it is difficult to see what real steps can be taken to avoid hazard to life.

Once again I have included a graphic representation of the quinquennial rates for Maidstone compared with those for England and Wales. As I pointed out last year, only on one occasion has the rate for Maidstone exceeded that for the national average. The flattening out process of the curve has been continuous, and we may see a further extension of this trend in the next few years.

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All causes: certified uncertified	9 1	- -	- -	- -	9 1	4 -	2 -	2 -	1 -	18 1
Prematurity	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Congenital heart disease	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Hydrocephalus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Septicaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Erythroblastosis foetalis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Bronchopneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Other causes	2	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	4
TOTALS	10	-	-	-	10	4	2	2	1	19

INFANTILE MORTALITY

CAUSES OF DEATH

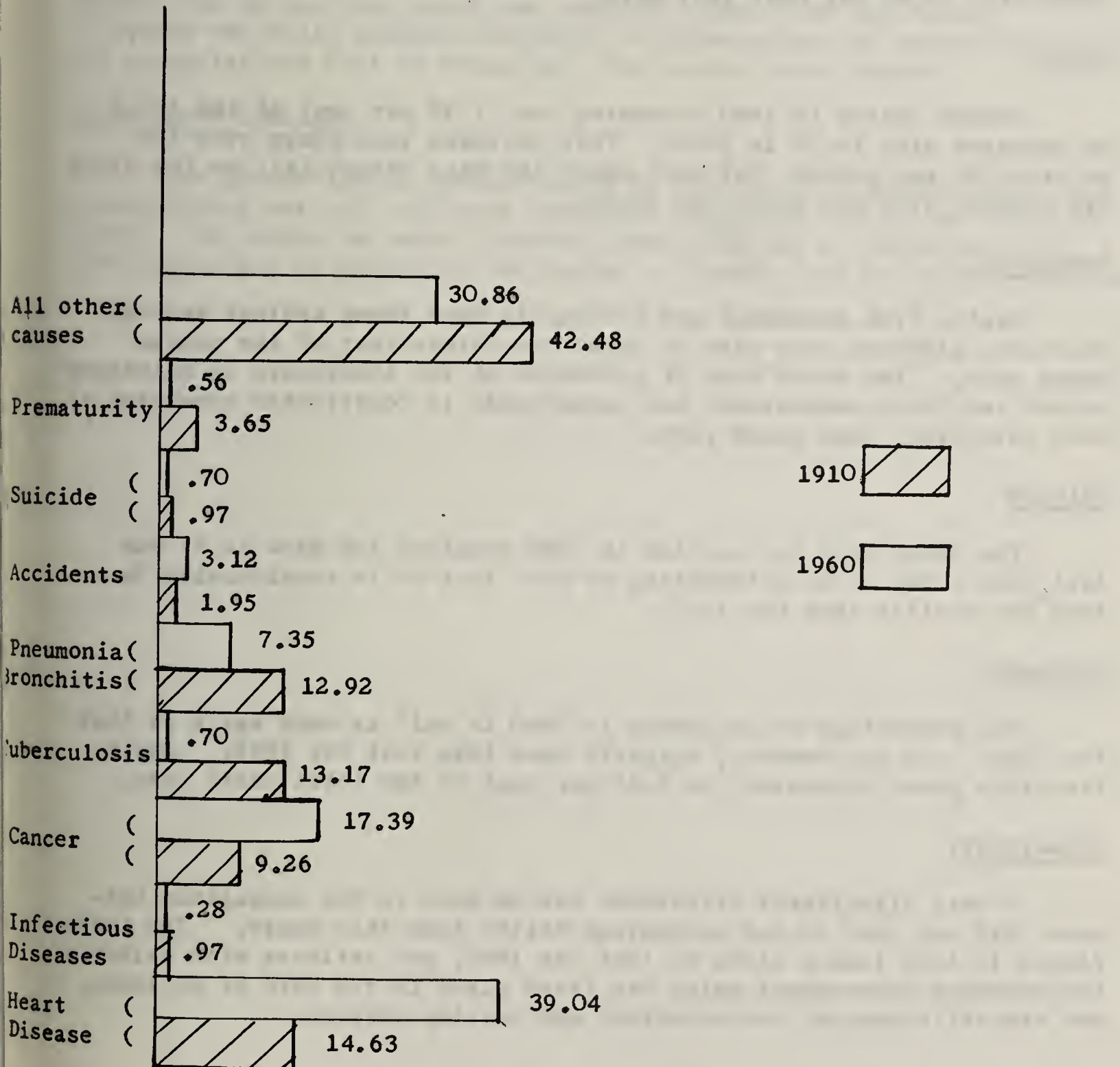
Condition				M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	5	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	1	1
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	..	..	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	-	1
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	-	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	9	4
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	21	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	-	14
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	-	8
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	37	28
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	-	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	47	56
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	69	44
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	9	5
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	51	84
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	14	24
22.	Influenza	..	..	-	1
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	11	24
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	13	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	1	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	7	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	-	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	3	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	2	5
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	27	34
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	8	1
34.	All other accidents	..	..	8	5
35.	Suicide	..	..	2	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	1	-
TOTALS				348	359

DEATHS APPORTIONED TO THE WARDS OF THE BOROUGH

MONTH	North Ward	Shepway Ward	South Ward	Bridge Ward	Heath Ward	High Street Ward	King Street Ward	TOTAL
January	6	8	9	12	17	3	8	63
February	6	7	5	8	16	7	7	56
March	10	6	6	9	23	9	10	73
April	7	8	3	12	16	13	7	66
May	8	11	8	10	19	6	6	68
June	6	6	7	5	10	7	7	48
July	6	8	4	8	20	5	5	56
August	10	7	6	6	15	5	3	52
September	2	5	2	10	22	7	10	58
October	3	2	4	9	18	4	9	49
November	8	5	6	8	13	8	6	54
December	7	15	9	6	8	11	8	64
TOTALS	79	88	69	103	197	85	86	707

THE CHANGING PATTERN OF DISEASE

Specific diseases shown as percentages of the total number of deaths
1910 and 1960



THE CHANGING PATTERN OF DISEASES

Heart Disease

Once again, as expected, heart disease accounted for the greatest percentage of deaths in 1960, the figure being 39.04 per cent, as compared with 34.42 per cent last year.

Cancer

Cancer deaths in 1960 accounted for 17.39 per cent of the total, as compared with 16.39 in 1959. This increase took place over the majority of age groups, but once again the main weight fell on the older age groups, over the age of 65 years.

Pneumonia

Deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis have shown another welcome decrease, although this rate is still two-thirds that of the cancer death rate. The exact role of pollution of the atmosphere in Maidstone is not yet fully understood, but undoubtedly it contributes something to this relatively high death rate.

Suicide

The death rate for suicide in 1960 remained the same as it was last year - but it is interesting to note that it is considerably less than the similar rate for 1910.

Accidents

The percentage of accidents in 1960 is half as much again as that for 1910. It is, however, slightly less than that for 1959. Deaths from this group accounted for 3.12 per cent of the total death rate.

Prematurity

A very significant difference can be seen in the comparison between 1910 and 1960 in the percentage deaths from this cause. The 1960 figure is less than a sixth of that for 1910, and reflects with validity the enormous improvement which has taken place in the care of children, and the efficiency of the midwifery and nursing service.

Tuberculosis

The most striking difference in the death rates of all the diseases we have discussed is that of tuberculosis. The percentage of deaths from this cause in 1960 was only one-nineteenth of that which obtained in 1910. Whatever one may feel about the changing pattern of disease as far as tuberculosis is concerned, there is not the slightest doubt that the trend of progress in this disease has been out of all proportion to the time which has elapsed between the two dates. Although one still regards the onset of tuberculosis as extremely serious, as a statistical fact it occupies a very minor place indeed.

Infectious diseases.

The percentage of deaths caused by infectious diseases other than tuberculosis was .28, and this figure is less than a third of that for 1910. It should be noted, however, that 1910 was a 'freak year' in that there was an unusually low number of deaths from infectious disease.

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS, 1960

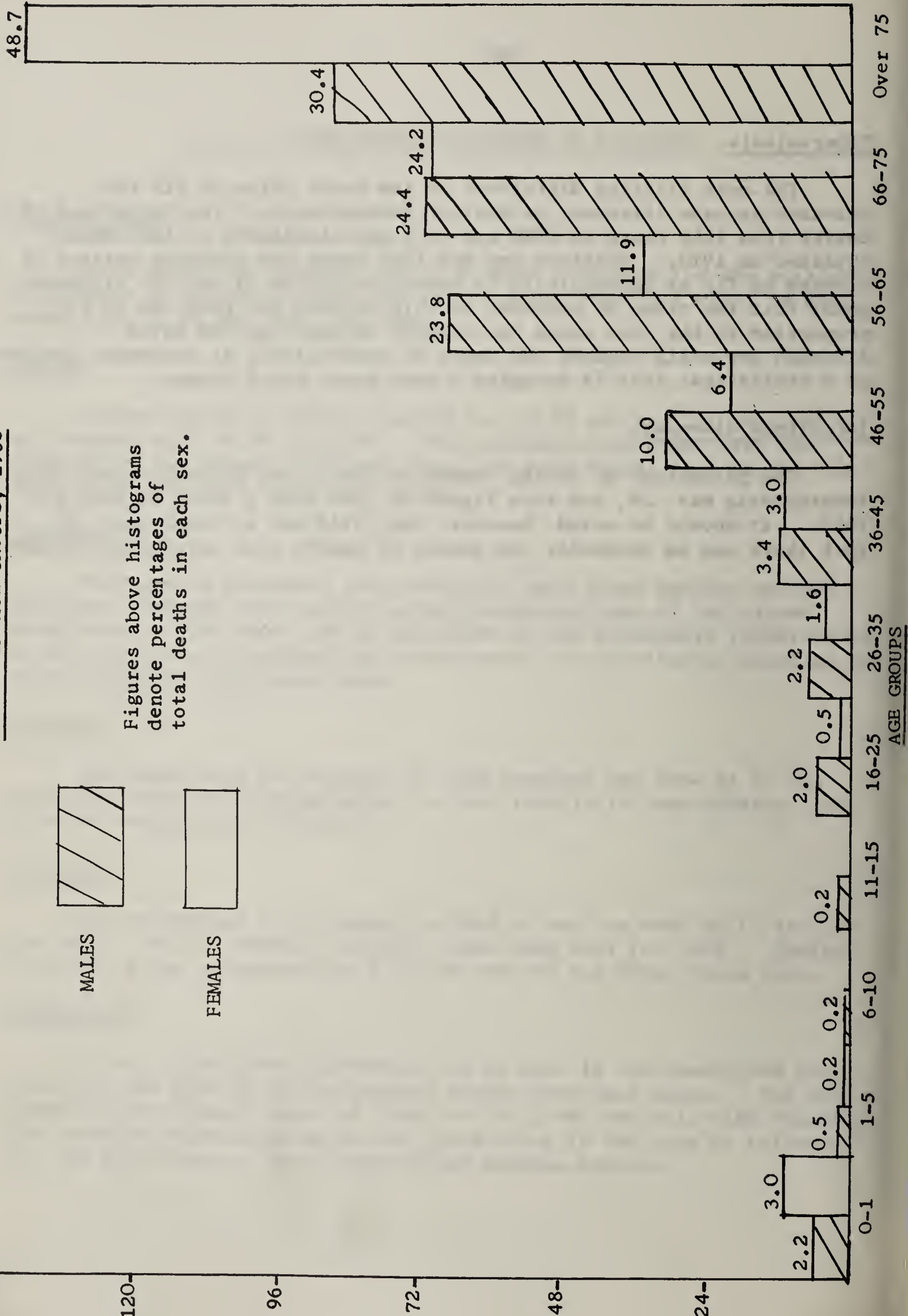


MALES



FEMALES

Figures above histograms denote percentages of total deaths in each sex.



HEALTH SERVICES OPERATING IN THE AREA

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The School Health Service, with school inspections and clinics, the Maternity and Child Welfare Service, and the Domiciliary Midwifery Service are now administered by the Kent County Council, and are controlled by the County Medical Officer.

HOSPITALS

The hospitals are administered by the Mid Kent Hospital Management Committee and the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. The services of the consultant staff are available at the West Kent General Hospital and the County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital. Available also is Preston Hall Chest Hospital and use is made by patients from the Maidstone area of the hospitals in the Tunbridge Wells area, particularly Pembury and the Kent and Sussex Hospital.

Additional beds are in use at Linton Hospital. In the case of the former Fant Lane Isolation Hospital, the future of this hospital is still unsettled at the time of this report, and there is no indication at the moment of whether, in fact, isolation beds will be available in the Maidstone area. At present use is being made of several infectious diseases hospitals over a wide area, entailing in general a considerable distance in carriage.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

This service is administered by the County Council and is of great value in providing care for aged and disabled patients, and thus relieving pressure on the available hospital beds. I often find that by the judicious use of this service, elderly people are given the advantage of essential domestic help, thereby tiding them over a difficulty which, in other circumstances, would undoubtedly require hospitalisation.

It is surprising to find such a large number of elderly people with no near relatives, and often, I am sorry to say, relatives are unwilling to help out at this dependent stage of life.

The services rendered by the Maidstone Personal Service Society and the British Red Cross Society are greatly appreciated and contribute very markedly to the welfare of the old folk.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY

Again a great deal of interest has been taken in the Borough in 1960, in the care of the elderly.

One of the major advances made, as far as the Corporation is concerned, was the inauguration of a Wardens Service on the Shepway and Parkwood Estates, where the Council appointed Mr. & Mrs. Bowyer as Joint Wardens to provide a welfare service for the elderly persons residing on these estates.

Since commencing their duties on 14th November, 1960, the Wardens have compiled a register of approximately 250 elderly persons. The register contains relevant details of the persons' next of kin, doctor attending, etc., and a record of visits made.

Periodic visits are made to all the elderly persons and in cases of sickness daily visits made in which the Wardens give general household assistance until, should the illness become prolonged, the normal welfare services take over. Up to 31st March, 1961, a total of 1,188 such visits had been carried out.

A very close liaison with the various voluntary organisations and medical services has been built up, and there is no doubt that the elderly people on the Estates greatly appreciate the Wardens' services.

The scheme has proved to be a worthwhile venture and one which could well be extended to cover all the elderly persons resident in the Borough.

Voluntary Organisations

Throughout the year considerable liaison was carried on with various associations, clubs and societies concerned with the welfare of the elderly. Talks were given to association meetings and a great deal of information was passed between this office and voluntary organisations. It would be invidious to choose one organisation above all others which has provided exemplary service; all have played a very prominent part in this work.

WATER SUPPLIES

The Maidstone Waterworks Company supply the Borough of Maidstone and parts of the surrounding rural districts. The demand for water, both for domestic and commercial use is steadily increasing. Nearly 99 per cent of the area served by the Company has a piped water supply.

In the Spring of 1960 the Maidstone Waterworks Company laid 5,730 yards of 14 inch main, and 2,227 yards of 9 inch main to establish a link between the trunk mains of the Medway Water Board and the Detling and Boxley Reservoirs. During the year a temporary bulk supply was taken from Matts Hill Pumping Station from the end of June to the end of October. These same mains will ultimately bring the future water supply to Maidstone from the permanent development of the water resources in the Faversham area. These are expected to yield some 7 million gallons per day, and Maidstone Waterworks Company's share will be about $1\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons per day, which it is anticipated will meet Maidstone's foreseeable needs to the end of the current century.

SIZES AND LENGTHS OF MAINS LAID WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE DURING 1960

Size of Main	Location	Length in Yards
3"	Chatham Road	241
3"	Fuller Shaw Estate, Willington St.	248
4"	Fuller Shaw Estate, Willington St.	144
4"	Sherbold Farm Estate	383
3"	Off Wallis Avenue West	82
4"	Hillary Road, Hookwood Estate	24
4"	Peel Street Hedges	78
3"	Off Willington St. (new School Lane)	236
4"	Headingley Road	25
3"	College Avenue	90
4"	Queens Grove Estate	32

Totals:	3" main	..	..	..	897 yds.
	4" main	..	..	..	686 yds.
					1,583 yds.

Chemical analyses and bacteriological examinations of the water are carried out monthly, some by the Company's own Analyst, and some by the Public Health Laboratory. The results of examinations are consistently satisfactory, showing the water to be of a high standard.

The following table shows the average of the results of the chemical analyses of water during the year.

	Boarley Springs	Cossington Springs	Forstal Well	Farleigh Engine House	Cossington Well	Boxley Well	Boxley Borehole	Hockers Lane Borehole
Total solid residue	398	358	571	544	255	315	276	364
Chlorine	22.4	19.9	43.0	32.7	19.4	18.5	20.5	31.9
Nitrogen (nitrites)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nitrogen (nitrates)	5.2	4.6	2.2	6.1	2.0	1.8	0.2	2.4
Ammonia saline	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ammonia albuminoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oxygen absorbed ($\frac{1}{4}$ hour at 27°C)	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.05
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 27°C)	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.12	0.17	0.10	0.10	0.12
Total hardness	284	248	408	348	189	249	138	197

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

The water supply in the area of Maidstone Borough has been of satisfactory quality and quantity during 1960.

Bacteriological examinations have been made of both raw and treated water -

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Raw water	43	6	49
Treated water	134	-	134
TOTALS	177	6	183

All the unsatisfactory samples were of water which was afterwards subject to treatment, and in all cases the contamination was of a minor nature.

Chemical analyses -

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Raw water	40	-	40
Treated water	58	-	58
TOTALS	98	-	98

The water supply in Maidstone is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

There are 17,809 houses supplied from public water mains direct to the house, no houses are supplied by standpipes. Seven houses are supplied by private water supply, with an approximate population of 18. The number of the population served by the statutory supply undertaking is 58,172.

SEWERAGE

A large scale scheme for the modernisation and extension of the existing main sewage disposal works is now being undertaken, and this, as far as is foreseeable, will provide Maidstone with an adequate and up-to-date sewerage system for future requirements.

Location	Size (diameter)	Surface Water Sewer (lin.yds.)	Foul Sewer (lin.yds.)
School Lane ..	9"	213	-
Willow Way ..	9"	308	-
Mote Avenue ..	9"	176	-
Park Wood ..	9"	925	825
Glebe Lane ..	9"	260	-
Hook Wood Extension	9"	460	430
" " "	12"	238	-
" " "	6"	-	801
Willington Farm Estate	6"	325	307
Chatham Road Estate	6"	-	285
Ringlestone Estate	9"	246	-
Fuller Shaw Estate	24"	157	-
" " "	4"	200	-
" " "	9"	-	160
" " "	6"	-	260
Queens Grove Estate	9"	431	368
" " "	12"	274	-
Shernold's ..	6"	-	455
Sportsfield ..	6"	-	140
		4,213	4,031

FOOD HYGIENE

1. NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE BOROUGH 619

<u>Class</u>						<u>Number</u>
Restaurants and Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	47
Hotels	..	..	..	..	..	10
School Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	17
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	82
Food Shops:						
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	44
Fruit and Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	128
Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	22
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	13
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	15
Grocers and Provision Merchants	..	..	..	..	..	162
Tobacconists and Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	43
Mobile Shops	..	..	..	..	..	20
Others	..	..	..	..	..	16

Where more than one food business is carried on in any premises, only those businesses which form a substantial proportion of the trade on the premises are classified above.

2. FOOD PREMISES BY TYPE REGISTERED WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITY UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955, LOCAL BYELAWS AND THE MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959.

Ice-cream manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	2
Ice-cream sellers	..	..	..	..	..	200
Sausage manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	35
Margarine, Margarine-cheese and Milk-blended Butter						
(wholesale dealers)	..	..	..	..	..	9
Artificial cream dealers	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	4
Milk Distributors (Sterilised Milk - 42)	..	..	..	..	..	97

3. NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS OF REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES .. 514

FOOD AND DRUGS, 1960

During the year the following samples of Food and Drugs were taken for analysis and the results are recorded below.

Article	Number of Samples obtained	Number Genuine.
Milk	170	106
School Milk	21	21
Milk for M.A.F.F.	108	108
Sterilised Milk	12	12
Dried Milk	2	-
Mixed Spices	2	2
Margarine	1	1
Sweetmeats	4	4
Fruit, fresh	2	-
Fruit, tinned	1	1
Aspirin	1	1
Glauber Salts	1	1
Fish, tinned	2	2
Saccharin tablets	1	1
Butter	1	1
Pork sausages and sausage meat	7	7
Beef sausages and sausage meat	2	2
Custard powder	1	1
Ice cream	5	5
Luncheon meat	2	2
Rice	1	1
Sago	1	1
Cream	1	1
Magnesia	1	1
Jellies	1	1
Minerals	1	-
Bicarbonate of soda	1	1
White Pepper	2	2
Beverages	3	3
Malt Vinegar	1	1
Mustard Pickle	1	1
Marmalade	1	1
Epsom Salts	1	1
Jam	1	1
Orange Squash	1	1
Soups	2	1
Instant Icing	1	1
Fish and Meat Paste	3	3
Cheese	3	3
	373	303

During 1960, foods of various descriptions, in the following quantities were found to be unfit for human consumption. This unfit food, which in every case was surrendered, included the following:-

Ham, tinned	..	..	14 cwts., 0 qrs., 5 lbs.
Milk tinned	..	..	605 tins
Peas, tinned	..	..	707 tins
Fruit, tinned	..	..	1,864 tins
Fruit, dried	..	..	1 qr., 0 lbs.
Vegetables, tinned	..	..	100 tins
Soup, tinned	..	..	141 tins
Meat, tinned	..	..	1 ton, 5 cwts., 3 qrs., 26 lbs.
Fish, tinned	..	..	87 tins
Fish, fresh	..	..	7 stones
Beans, tinned	..	..	193 tins
Cheese,	..	..	1 cwt., 2 qrs., 27 lbs.
Jam, tinned	..	..	107 tins
Bacon ..	..	..	1 ton, 2 cwts., 2 qrs., 11 lbs.
Puddings, tinned	..	..	97 tins.
Pies, meat	..	..	28
Beverages, tinned	..	..	21 tins
Sausages	..	..	2 qrs., 20 lbs.
Cereals, tinned	..	..	127 tins
Mixed Spices	..	..	1 drum
Preservatives	..	..	3 jars
Flour ...	..	..	1 qr., 14 lbs.
Frozen foods	..	..	176 pkts.
Vegetables	..	..	4 cwts., 0 qrs., 0 lbs.
Tea ..	..	..	1 qr., 0 lbs.
Sugar ..	..	..	2 qrs. 14 lbs.
Biscuits	..	..	17 lbs.
Sauces ..	..	..	6 galls.
Butter and fats	..	..	1 cwt., 1 qr., 21 lbs.
Mushrooms	..	..	4 lbs.
Sweetmeats	..	..	927 pkts.
Eggs ..	..	..	10 dozen
Mincemeat	..	..	7 lbs.
Custard powder	..	..	14 lbs.
Jellies ..	..	..	24 pkts.
Ice cream and iced lollies	..	..	135 blocks

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

When the Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations, 1960, came into force satisfactory arrangements were made with a contractor to collect unfit meat in accordance with Article 7(2) (c) of the Regulations.

Small consignments of other unsound food are still burned at the Refuse Destructor. No unsound food was reprocessed for human consumption during the year.

FOOD AND FOOD HYGIENE.

Routine inspection of food premises was maintained throughout the year. One food trader in Maidstone Market was prosecuted under Regulation 9 (e) of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, for smoking whilst handling fruit. Warning letters were sent to occupiers of food businesses for minor offences under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

MEAT INSPECTION: The number of carcasses inspected and the amount condemned in 1960 are as follows:-

1960	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed) Number inspected)	1,453	831	562	4,012	5,853	-
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	4	7	3	23	13	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	494	352	22	1,034	1,666	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerici	34.3	43.2	4.4	26.3	28.6	-
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	27	20	-	1	58	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.0	2.4	-	-	1.0	-
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	14	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	14	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

HOUSING STATISTICS

I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

(1)(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	2,937
(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose ..	4,900
(2)(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-section (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	-
(b)	Number of inspections made for that purpose ..	-
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	227

II REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	117
---	-----

III ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1957

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices -	
(a)	by owners	-
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners ..	-

B. PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defect to be remedied ..	119
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice -	
(a) by owners	2
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ..	-

C. PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1957

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
(3) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	4
(4) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..	-

IV. HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART 4 - OVERCROWDING.

(a) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(b)(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	-
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	-
(c) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ..	-

V. RENT ACT, 1957

(1) Certificates applied for	2
(2) Visits made	37
(3) Undertakings accepted	1
(4) Certificates of Disrepair granted	1
(5) Applications not accepted	-

NEW BUILDING.

The following table sets out the provision of accommodation erected in 1959 by the Local Authority.

Site	Flats	Houses	Bungalows	Designed as Old People's Dwellings
Park Wood Estate	88	84	4	4

In addition, 249 houses were built by private enterprise.

HOUSING STATISTICS (for the period 1.4.60 to 31.3.61)

(a) Number of new properties handed over during year	100
(b) Families rehoused (including 88 from condemned property)	292
(c) Number of transfers	111
(d) Number of mutual exchanges between Council tenants	75
(e) Housing Applications as at 31st March, 1961	2,090
(f) Number of families rehoused on condition that Child Help Service was put into operation	4

HOUSING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

The Council is building a number of bungalows on the Park Wood Estate which are specially designed for occupation by disabled persons.

The bungalows have extra wide sliding doors, ramps instead of steps, fittings at wheel chair height, handrails to baths etc., and have a spare bedroom for use by a night Help if necessary.

There is a covered port at the side of the bungalows to accommodate invalid vehicles.

Four of the bungalows were completed and occupied prior to 31st March, 1961

INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES

Bakehouse inspections	..	..	..	..	34
Chimneys repaired ..	..	..	..	..	12
Cement sinks removed and glazed provided	..	..	..	..	4
Cooking stoves renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	-
Dairies and Milkshops inspected	..	..	..	..	179
Common Lodging House inspections	..	..	..	..	42
Coppers repaired ..	..	..	..	..	-
Drains choked and cleansed by flushing staff	..	..	..	..	326
" reconstructed	..	..	..	..	110
" inspection chambers provided	..	..	..	..	3
" Stoneware pipes laid, feet	..	..	..	..	159
Dustbins provided ..	..	..	..	..	8
Factory, workplaces and outworkers premises inspected	..	..	..	..	458
Grates renewed or repaired ..	..	..	..	..	2
Houses, floors to living-rooms provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	7
" chuting or guttering repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	29
" roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	35
" rooms where dirty or loose paper has been removed and walls and ceilings repaired and distempered	..	..	..	..	39
" walls made dry by insertion of damp course or other method	..	..	..	..	84
Inquiries into cases of infectious diseases	..	..	..	..	62
Inspection of houses on complaint or otherwise	..	..	..	..	9,073
Re-inspections ..	..	..	..	..	6,164
Miscellaneous defects remedied	..	..	..	..	144
Public Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	168
Restaurants and Cafes inspected	..	..	..	..	176
Schools inspected ..	..	..	..	..	7
Sink or other wastepipes removed, disconnected or trapped	..	..	..	..	2
Sinks, new channels provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	3
Stoneware gullies provided ..	..	..	..	..	1
W.C.'s Walls and ceilings repaired	..	..	..	..	10
" new pans, traps and seats provided	..	..	..	..	8
Window frames required	..	..	..	..	7
Verminous rooms cleansed	..	..	..	..	10
Yard pavement repaired or provided in connection with houses	..	..	..	..	2
Preliminary Notices served	..	..	..	..	225
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	2

(1) INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES - Including inspections
made by Public Health Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Inspections (2)	Number of Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical Power ..	202	3	-
Factories without Mechanical Power ..	174	1	-
Other Premiseses	82	-	-
Total	458	4	-

(2) DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Factories Act, 1937 and the Public Health Act 1936.				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	1	1
Want of ventilation	1	1	1	1
Overcrowding	1	1	1	1
Want of drainage floors	1	1	1	1
Other nuisances	1	1	1	1
Sanitary Accomodation:				
Insufficient	1	1	1	1
Unsuitable or defects	4	4	1	1
Not separate for sexes	1	1	1	1
Offences under the Factories Act 1937:				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 54)	1	1	1	1
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork)	1	1	1	1
Total	7	6	1	1

FACTORIES

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1960 FOR THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE IN THE COUNTY OF KENT

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	43	144	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	265	202	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	17	82	-	-
Total	325	458	4	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	2	2	-	2	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	-	1	-
Inadequate venti- lation (S.4) ..	3	3	-	3	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	1	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Total ..	7	6	1	7	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
) Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	-
) and	-	-	-	-	-	-
) Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household Linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains & nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	14	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables & chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT - Outwork - Contd.

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet and tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding etc. of buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas stockings etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	16	-	-	-	-	-

VERMINOUS DWELLINGS

During the year 1960 the following work in the eradication of bugs and other vermin was carried out:-

(a) Council Houses found to be infested	..	..	16
(b) Other houses found to be infested	..	..	12

Council Houses disinfested:-

(a) By gassing	..	..	..	-
(b) By spraying and the burning of insecticides				16

Other houses disinfested:-

(a) By gassing	..	..	..	-
(b) By spraying and the burning of insecticides				12

Verminous households fumigated before removal to a Council House or during transfer to another Council House

..	4
----	----	----	---

Council Houses inspected and found clean	..	390
--	----	-----

Other houses inspected and found clean	..	225
--	----	-----

PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS

Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	2
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	2
Dairies	..	..	..	4

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

The present public swimming baths, which were built in 1852, further works being carried out in 1895, provide a very useful amenity to the district. It is felt, however, that there are inherent difficulties in the management of these baths, and this is particularly so in the internal organisation at the present site.

During the year 35 samples of water were taken from the pools for bacteriological examination. One sample was found to be unsatisfactory and this was quickly corrected. All subsequent samples were of a high standard.

The water is supplied through the Maidstone Waterworks Company with the same source as the town supply. The water undergoes a process of constant change, filtration and purification, and the purity of the supply is secured by a break-point, or super-chlorination system.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951

It was not necessary to take any action under these Acts to remove to an institution persons in need of care and attention.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS, 1953

It was necessary in one case only to issue a Notice under the above Regulations in order to prevent the spread of infection through the handling of food. The Notice was in operation for a period of 23 days.

AIR POLLUTION

On the 1st January 1960, the measurement of air pollution in the Borough was commenced. Three recording stations were set up at Barming Reservoir, Tonbridge Road; Rootes Garage, Mill Street, and the Sports Pavilion, Penenden Heath. These stations are roughly in the line of the prevailing wind across the town. The sites were set up with the approval of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and with the co-operation of Rootes Limited and Maidstone Waterworks Company.

Each recording station contains a deposit gauge which collects rainfall and the coarser particles of air pollutants, and a smoke filter and a volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus.

Because of the seasonal variations an average figure of air pollution for a calendar year would be of little value and so, for this report only, the results have been analysed by grouping together the months of January, February, March, October, November and December, 1960, as Winter months, and the remaining months of 1960 as Summer months.

In addition records were kept of the Borough Engineer's daily observations of wind direction and rainfall.

The value of the information obtained will not become apparent until a sufficient number of readings has been taken to establish the normal level of air pollution in the different parts of the town. The monthly deposits and concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide are given below, together with the wind direction and rainfall.

No applications were received for prior approval for the installation of new furnaces under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

During the year 441 smoke observations of emissions from industrial chimneys were made and 39 emissions of dark smoke were detected.

DEPOSITSUndissolved Solids (U/S) (tons/sq.mile/month)Total Solids (T/S) (tons/sq.mile/month)

	Barming		Town Centre		Penenden Heath	
	U/S	T/S	U/S	T/S	U/S	T/S
<u>Winter</u>						
January	3.74	8.47	8.4	14.57	3.05	9.05
February	3.11	4.54	3.48	7.95	9.34	11.79
March	3.71	7.09	7.49	15.34	2.39	5.40
October	2.85	13.72	9.54	21.30	3.28	24.08
November	2.45	6.62	6.10	14.08	2.09	9.05
December	3.64	31.85	31.63	41.60	4.60	12.28
<u>Averages</u>	3.25	12.05	11.10	19.16	4.12	11.96
<u>Summer</u>						
April	3.98	6.64	8.18	12.19	4.31	7.61
May	4.37	5.50	6.09	8.11	4.34	5.80
June	4.54	6.89	4.80	8.14	4.67	7.16
July	3.51	8.25	8.95	14.68	4.91	9.02
August	2.85	12.72	10.03	26.05	3.61	13.25
September	3.58	8.75	12.56	20.35	3.48	9.05
<u>Averages</u>	3.80	8.12	7.10	14.92	4.22	8.65

SMOKE (mg./100 m³)

	Barming			Town Centre			Penenden Heath		
	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest
<u>Winter</u>									
January	36	11	2	42	13	2	34	9	2
February	30	9	3	32	10	2	35	7	1
March	13	6	2	13	7	2	5	3	1
October	17	8	1	22	10	4	16	5	1
November	36	8	2	29	10	1	15	6	1
December	30	13	3	30	15	2	19	14	2
<u>Summer</u>									
April	13	4	2	14	5	2	7	3	1
May	5	3	Nil	6	4	1	4	2	Nil
June	4	1	Nil	5	2	Nil	2	1	Nil
July	3	1	Nil	5	2	1	3	1	Nil
August	4	2	Nil	6	3	1	3	1	Nil
September	8	4	1	10	5	2	5	3	Nil

SULPHUR DIOXIDE (p.p. 100 million)

	Barming			Town Centre			Penenden Heath		
	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest	Highest	Average	Lowest
<u>Winter</u>									
January	20.1	6.1	0.7	19.6	6.6	1.0	14.1	3.7	0.6
February	16.4	4.0	1.1	12.7	4.4	0.5	12.1	2.6	0.5
March	6.0	3.4	1.3	6.7	3.1	0.3	2.2	1.3	0.5
October	8.1	3.7	1.4	12.0	3.8	0.6	6.8	2.5	0.2
November	12.0	3.4	0.6	9.4	3.2	0.3	6.3	2.9	Nil
December	11.6	5.3	Nil	15.2	6.2	1.1	7.3	3.4	0.5
<u>Summer</u>									
April	9.8	3.0	0.8	10.3	3.5	0.6	5.1	1.9	0.2
May	3.6	1.8	0.1	4.7	2.3	0.5	2.6	1.0	0.2
June	4.1	1.7	0.8	4.2	2.0	1.0	2.2	1.3	0.2
July	3.4	1.3	0.3	3.3	1.6	0.5	3.0	1.4	0.2
August	4.2	2.0	0.6	4.2	2.0	0.4	3.5	1.5	0.5
September	11.4	2.8	0.6	16.6	3.2	1.1	4.3	1.6	0.6

2901 F (44/10013)

WIND DIRECTION Days/Month

	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.
<u>Winter</u>								
January		4	2	2	8	11	3	1
February		5	2		10	11		1
March	2	4	6	2	13	4		
October		1		2	18	6	3	1
November		1		1	8	17	3	
December	4				5	16	3	3
<u>Summer</u>								
April	5	8			7	6	1	3
May	2	3	2		14	7	3	
June	4	3		3	6	11	3	
July	2				4	23	2	
August	1				8	20	1	1
September		2		1	6	15	5	1

METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS

MONTH	Average Barometer	Average Thermo- meter (maximum)	Average Thermo- meter (minimum)	Rainfall	Number of days on which .01 fell	Sunshine	
						Hours	Minutes
January	30.11	44	36	2.63	20	14	00
February	29.46	45	36	1.71	14	68	42
March	30.00	50	40	1.78	12	82	36
April	30.25	56	41	.64	8	143	46
May	30.24	64	47	2.13	8	152	14
June	30.23	70	52	1.28	8	207	06
July	29.93	67	53	3.56	20	144	00
August	30.00	68	53	4.87	19	154	30
September	30.10	64	50	4.00	15	118	30
October	30.07	56	47	6.75	22	59	40
November	29.67	52	41	5.02	24	41	00
December	29.96	44	36	5.38	23	16	00
Averages and totals for the year	30.00	56	44	37.75	193	1201	04

Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality
in the year, 1960

Area	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population				Rate per 1,000			
		Live Births	All causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of lung	Other cancer	Total Deaths under 1 year	Live Births	Related Births
									Still Births
England and Wales	17.1 (P)	11.5	.07 (P)	.48 (P)	1.67 (P)	21.7	19.7 (P)		
Hollingbourn R.D.	16.92	9.86	.11	.41	1.75	29.09	14.33		
Maidstone R.D.	15.87	9.20	-	.56	2.04	20.27	19.86		
Malling R.D.	18.90	10.92	.36	.36	1.54	23.22	32.30		
Maidstone Borough	18.16	11.16	.08	.39	1.71	18.68	15.48		
County of Kent	16.40	8.64	.05	.41	1.33	18.52	19.67		

(P) - Provisional Rates

BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONEGeneral Summary

Population (Estimated 1960)	..	..	..	..	58,190
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	..	..	..	..	8,472
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1960) according to Rate Books	..	.	..	..	17,816
Average number of persons per house (1921)	..	..	..	..	4.6
Average number of persons per house (1960)	..	..	..	..	3.2
Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	6,194
Density (persons per acre)	..	..	..	..	9.200
Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	18.16
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	11.16
Phthisis Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	.08
Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	2.11
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births	..	..	..	..	18.68
Live Births: Males - 511, Females - 506	..	..	..	..	1,017
Deaths: Males - 348, Females - 359	..	..	..	..	707
Excess of Births over Deaths	..	..	..	..	310

ELEVATION - The population resides at a mean elevation of 70 feet above sea level, ranging from 20 feet to 150 feet.

INDEX

Accidents ..	29	Inspections ..	46
Acknowledgements ..	3-4	Kent County Council ..	32
Air Pollution ..	54-58	Maidstone Waterworks Company	34
Analyses: Water Supplies	35	Measles ..	6, 8
Mortality Rates	60	Meat Inspection ..	42
Area ..	5	Meteorological Records	59
Baths ..	53	National Assistance Acts	53
Birth rates ..	5	Neonatal Mortality ..	5
Byelaw control ..	52	Notifiable diseases ..	6-10
Cancer ..	22, 29	Overcrowding ..	44
Chest Clinic ..	18-20	Pneumonia ..	7, 29
Death rates ..	5, 26-30, 60	Poliomyelitis ..	6, 12-13
Defective dwellings ..	43-44	Population ..	5
Diphtheria ..	6, 15-16	Prematurity ..	23, 29
Disease, changing pattern	29-30	Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1953	53
Domestic Help Service	32	Puerperal Pyrexia ..	7
Dysentery ..	7	Quinquennial reviews ..	21, 25
Elderly, Care of ..	33	Scarlet fever ..	6
Erysipelas ..	7	School Health Service ..	32
Factories ..	47-51	Sewerage ..	37
Flats ..	45	Smallpox ..	7, 14
Food and Food Hygiene	38-41	Staff ..	1
Food Poisoning ..	7-8	Still-births ..	5
General Summary ..	61	Suicide ..	29
Health Committee ..	1	Swimming Baths ..	53
Health Services ..	32-33	Tuberculosis ..	17-21, 30
Heart Disease ..	29	Tuberculosis Care Committee	18-20
Hospitals ..	32	Vaccination ..	11-16
Housing ..	43-45	Verminous dwellings ..	52
Housing statistics ..	43-44	Vital Statistics ..	5
Immunisation ..	11-16	Water Supplies ..	34-36
Infantile Mortality ..	23-25	Whooping Cough ..	6, 13
Infectious Diseases ..	6-10, 30		

